

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_****A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS OPPOSING THE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY'S HALF CENT TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX MEASURE TO BE PLACED ON NOVEMBER ELECTION BALLOT**

**WHEREAS**, on June 2, 2016, the Valley Transportation Authority ("VTA") Board of Directors unanimously adopted the framework and funding amounts for a half cent, 30-year County-wide sales tax measure on the November 8, 2016 ballot to help fund transportation priorities, which will require a 2/3 voter majority to pass; and

**WHEREAS**, VTA anticipates the 30-year half cent sales tax measure to generate between \$6 billion to \$6.5 billion in 2017-year dollars;

**WHEREAS**, VTA has three existing special taxes currently being levied on City of Milpitas and County-wide taxpayers, which include a half cent sales tax from 1976, a half cent sales tax from 2000, and an eighth cent sales tax from 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, the total sales tax rate by VTA is one and one-eighth percent (1 $\frac{1}{8}$  %) out of the total 8.75% sales tax paid by Milpitas taxpayers, while the total that the City of Milpitas receives from the 8.75% is only one percent (1 %); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Milpitas believes that the proposed VTA half cent sales tax for November will generate, just from the City of Milpitas, approximately \$10 million to \$12 million to VTA every year; the City further believes that over the life of the tax Milpitas will generate \$300 million to \$360 million in sales tax revenue benefiting VTA, not adjusted for inflation.

**WHEREAS**, VTA has approved a list of candidate transportation projects and programs eligible to receive funding from the sales tax measure revenue to improve mobility in Santa Clara County, as follows:

- BART Phase II at \$1.5 billion
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Program at \$250 million
- Caltrain Capacity Improvements at \$300 million
- Caltrain Grade Separations at \$700 million
- County Expressways at \$750 million
- Highway Interchanges at \$750 million
- Local Streets and Roads at \$1.2 billion
- SR 85 Corridor at \$350 million
- Transit Operations at \$500 million

**WHEREAS**, the City of Milpitas is a significant crossroads of and gateway to Silicon Valley and, as such, the City believes it experiences a higher proportion of traffic congestion than does many other Santa Clara County cities; and

**WHEREAS**, a close review of the projects and programs listed above reveals that a great number of the projects are along highways, roadways and corridors that are not in or close to the City of Milpitas and therefore appear to not directly benefit the City of Milpitas; and

**WHEREAS**, the City does not believe that the list of projects approved by the VTA include the widening of State Route 237 or the Calaveras Boulevard overpass; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that VTA prioritize improvements directly benefiting the City of Milpitas and that the amount of benefit received by the City of Milpitas is equal to the amount paid by Milpitas tax payers each year; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Milpitas believes that the VTA sales tax measure will not provide Milpitas taxpayers with a direct benefit equal to the amount paid by Milpitas tax payers each year.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Milpitas hereby finds, determines, and resolves as follows:

1. The City Council has considered the full record before it, which may include but is not limited to such things as the staff report, testimony by staff and the public, and other materials and evidence submitted or provided to it. Furthermore, the recitals set forth above are found to be true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.
2. The City Council hereby declares its opposition to the VTA's half cent, 30-year, County-wide Transportation Sales Tax Measure which is proposed to be placed on the ballot for the November, 2016 general election.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2016, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Lavelle, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jose S. Esteves, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher J. Diaz, City Attorney